



Media Contact: Ian P. Hines
Office: 410-260-7655
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Cell: 443-694-3651

MARTIN O'MALLEY
GOVERNOR
60 West St, Suite 300
Annapolis, MD 21401

MALCOLM D. WOOLF
DIRECTOR
800.72.ENERGY
(TEL) 410.260.7655
(FAX) 410-974-2250
www.energy.maryland.gov

APPLIANCE REBATE PROGRAM EXCEEDS ALL EXPECTATIONS, BENEFITS THOUSANDS OF MARYLANDERS

Program projects to save Marylanders \$19.6 million over the life of the appliances

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND (December 16, 2010) – The Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) today announced that the popular Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program, which concluded on Friday, November 12, 2010, resulted in more than 30,000 individual energy-saving rebates to Maryland households. The rebate program encouraged residents to replace outdated, inefficient appliances in their homes with ENERGY STAR-rated equivalents, resulting in an estimated savings of \$19.6 million in energy costs over the lifetime of the appliances.

Using American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds, MEA has processed rebates for more than 18,500 clothes washers, 4,500 refrigerators and 6,000 central air conditioners and air source heat pumps to date, representing more than 9,000 MWh in projected annual energy savings. This overwhelming response exceeded expectations and demonstrates the ongoing commitment of Marylanders to reducing energy consumption by 15% by 2015, as well as to reducing Maryland's greenhouse gas emissions by 25% by 2020.

"I am pleased that so many of my fellow Marylanders took advantage of this incredible rebate program, which saved money for consumers and stimulated the contracting and retail industries that are currently suffering as a result of the ongoing recession," said Governor O'Malley. "The fact that demand so greatly exceeded our expectations is a testament to Maryland's ongoing commitment to reducing energy consumption and moving forward into the clean energy future."

MEA used \$5.4 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds to provide rebates to Marylanders replacing outdated, inefficient appliances with ENERGY STAR-rated equivalents. To ensure that no Marylander who submitted a properly completed rebate application by the November 12 deadline was denied a rebate, MEA expects to reallocate approximately \$1 million in Recovery Act funds from under-performing programs. No State of Maryland General Fund dollars were used for the Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program.

"I would like to personally thank each and every Marylander who took advantage of this amazing rebate program," said Malcolm Woolf, Director of the Maryland Energy Administration. "Thanks to them, we are continuing to make progress towards our twin goals of reducing Maryland's per capita energy consumption by 15% by 2015 and greenhouse gas emissions 25% by 2020."

Please note: Rebates may take up to eight weeks to be fully processed. Rebates offered by the individual utilities in support of the EmPOWER Maryland Energy Efficiency Act of 2008 were not affected by this announcement and continue to be available.

For more information, [visit the Maryland Energy Administration](http://www.energy.maryland.gov).

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